



#4/A OF
12/7/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Salman Akram

Serial No.: 09/708,932

Filed: November 8, 2000

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING METAL CONTACTS ON A SUBSTRATE

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 3434.1US (97-856.1)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Deidra Pfeil
Typed/printed name of person whose signature is contained above

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application on the merits, entry of the amendments as set forth herein is respectfully solicited.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit No.: 3729
Applicant(s): Salman Akram Filing date: November 8, 2000
Serial No.: 09/708,932 For (title): A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING METAL CONTACTS ON A SUBSTRATE

COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-identified patent application, and submitted in the order listed, are:

- Postcard receipt acknowledgment (attached to the front of this transmittal).
Duplicate copy of this transmittal sheet in the event that additional filing fees are required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16. Any such fees may be charged to deposit account no. 20-1469.
Check no. in the amount of \$ for the presentation of extra claims as calculated in the remarks section below.
[X] Preliminary amendment.
Amendment or other communication in response to the non-final office action mailed.
Amendment or other communication under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in response to the final office action mailed.
Petition for Extension of Time in duplicate with check no. in the amount of \$.
Verified statement(s) to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.27 signed by (or on behalf of).
Information disclosure statement and information disclosure citation form PTO-1449 with copies of listed documents.
[X] Letter to Chief Draftsman and copy of FIGS. 1D, 9, 12 and 17 with changes made in red.

Remarks:
An amendment has been made involving one or more claims in the application. The calculation to determine whether any additional fee is due is presented below.

Table with columns for claim counts (1, 2, 3) and \$EXTRA. Rows include Total claims, Indep. claims, First presentation of a multiple dep. claim, SUBTOTAL, Reduction for small entity, and TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE.

*Verified statement(s) must be attached to support this reduction if small entity status has not been previously established.
1 Claims remaining after amendment.
2 Highest number of claims previously paid for. Not less than 20 for total claims and 3 for independent claims.
3 Difference between claims remaining and highest number previously paid for. If less than zero, enter "0."

The commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required but not submitted with any document or request requiring fee payment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to deposit account no. 20-1469 during the entire pendency of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of James R. Duzan

James R. Duzan
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TRASK BRITT
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Date: August 9, 2001
Enclosures: As identified above
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